GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5303
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
EDUCATION FACILITIES TO CHILD LABOUR
Chandrappan Shri C.K.;Das Gupta Shri Gurudas

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment of children is allowed in certain industries;

(b) if so, whether the Government has initiated a policy to direct industries in which the child labour is permitted to provide education facilities to children employed therein; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Industrialists thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): Yes, Sir, employment of children is allowed in non-hazardous occupations and processes.The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in 15 Occupations and 57 Processes and it regulates the working conditions in non-hazardous industries where employment of children is not banned.

(b) & (c): The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in one of it's directions had envisaged that working hours of children in non-hazardous occupations should not exceed six hours per day and education for at least two hours is ensured. The entire expenditure on education is to be borne by the concerned employer. In this regard the Government has issued suitable instructions to the State Governments, being Appropriate Government under the Act, to implement the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Status report on the implementation of the guidelines is being furnished to the Hon'ble Supreme Court from time to time.